

SMALL GROUP Q'S

The King and His Kingdom

January 24, 2016

Matthew 11:2-6

- 1.) What do you think of when you think of a kingdom? What unique characteristics mark the kingdom of Jesus (i.e. what does the Bible say his rule and reign looks and feels like)?
- 2.) What ways can you think of that someone could come in contact with your life, your small group, your group of friends, or your church that they would experience the reality of the kingdom and long to know the King of that kingdom? When have you seen it be true that King Jesus is often experienced before he is met?
- 3.) Can you name one of Southwood's mission partners that advances the kingdom primarily in word (telling others about Jesus)? Primarily in deed (helping others experience Jesus)?
- 4.) Are you more comfortable being a part of the advance of God's kingdom in word OR in deed? In what way do you think that is OK, and in what ways do you need to be challenged to be involved in both?

HINT: Most of us are more naturally comfortable and/or gifted at either telling people about Jesus or showing the love and mercy of Christ to others so that they experience the reality of the kingdom. We shouldn't feel bad about preferring one to another – we can celebrate the strengths of others – but if either comes alone, it will not truly represent the Kingdom of Jesus that comes in word AND deed. For example, someone who speaks of King Jesus but shows none of the grace and truth of his kingdom misrepresents Jesus and his kingdom. On the other hand, someone who does many good deeds of the kingdom but never speaks of the King is leaving out the key to the whole kingdom and further experience of the blessings and goodness of the kingdom.

- 5.) Will you use the song "I'd Rather Have Jesus" as a window into his own heart and how he often finds himself pursuing the kingdom of self with God added in rather than seeking first God's kingdom. In what ways do you see that struggle in your own heart?
- 6.) Does the beauty and advance of God's Kingdom make you excited and eager to be a part of it? Why do you think this is?



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